



General Assembly

January Session, 2011

***Raised Bill No. 6580***

LCO No. 4313

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Referred to Committee on Transportation

Introduced by:  
(TRA)

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING REQUIREMENTS FOR HIGHWAY USE BY  
CERTAIN VEHICLES AND REPEALING THE PROHIBITION OF  
MOTORCYCLE OPERATION ON THE WILBUR CROSS PARKWAY.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 14-262 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2011*):

3 (a) The following vehicles shall not be operated upon any highway  
4 or bridge without a special written permit from the Commissioner of  
5 Transportation, as provided in section 14-270, specifying the  
6 conditions under which they may be so operated:

7 (1) A vehicle, combination of vehicle and trailer or commercial  
8 vehicle combination, including each such vehicle's load, which is  
9 wider than one hundred two inches or its approximate metric  
10 equivalent of two and six-tenths meters or one hundred two and  
11 thirty-six-hundredths inches, including its load, but not including the  
12 following safety devices: Reasonably sized rear view mirrors, turn  
13 signals, steps and handholds for entry and egress, spray and splash  
14 suppressant devices, load-induced tire bulge and any other state-

15 approved safety device which the Commissioner of Transportation  
16 determines is necessary for the safe and efficient operation of such a  
17 vehicle or combination, provided no such state-approved safety device  
18 protrudes more than three inches from each side of the vehicle or  
19 provided no such device has by its design or use the capability to carry  
20 cargo. Such permit shall not be required in the case of (A) farm  
21 equipment, (B) a vehicle or combination of vehicle and trailer loaded  
22 with hay or straw, (C) a school bus equipped with a folding stop sign  
23 or exterior mirror, as approved by the Commissioner of Motor  
24 Vehicles, which results in a combined width of bus and sign or bus  
25 and mirror in excess of that established by this subsection, (D) a trailer  
26 designed and used exclusively for transporting boats when the gross  
27 weight of such boats does not exceed four thousand pounds, or (E) a  
28 recreation vehicle with appurtenances, including safety devices and  
29 retracted shade awnings, no greater than six inches on each side for a  
30 maximum allowance of twelve inches; and

31 (2) A combination of truck and trailer which is longer than sixty-five  
32 feet except (A) a combination of truck and trailer or tractor and  
33 semitrailer loaded with utility poles, both trailer and semitrailer  
34 having a maximum length of forty-eight feet, utility poles having a  
35 maximum length of fifty feet and the overall length not to exceed  
36 eighty feet, (B) a trailer designed and used exclusively for transporting  
37 boats when the gross weight of such boats does not exceed four  
38 thousand pounds, (C) a tractor-trailer unit, (D) a commercial vehicle  
39 combination, (E) combinations of vehicles considered as specialized  
40 equipment in 23 CFR 658.13(e), as amended, having a maximum  
41 overall length of sixty-five feet on traditional automobile transporters,  
42 with the fifth wheel located on the tractor frame over the rear axle or  
43 axles, including low boys, or a maximum overall length of seventy-five  
44 feet on stinger-steered automobile transporters, excluding front and  
45 rear cargo overhangs, provided the front cargo overhang shall not  
46 exceed three feet and the rear overhang shall not exceed four feet.  
47 Extendable ramps used to achieve such three-foot front overhang and  
48 four-foot rear overhang shall be excluded from the measurement of

49 overall length and shall be retracted when they are not supporting  
50 vehicles, or (F) a tractor equipped with a dromedary box operated in  
51 combination with a semitrailer which tractor and semitrailer do not  
52 exceed seventy-five feet in overall length.

53 (b) A special written permit may not be issued by the Commissioner  
54 of Transportation for a combination of vehicles consisting of a vehicle  
55 drawing a combination of three or more trailers or semitrailers, except  
56 any such combination engaged in the transportation of an indivisible  
57 load.

58 (c) The maximum length, including load, of a single unit vehicle  
59 shall be forty-five feet and the maximum length, including load, of the  
60 semitrailer portion of a tractor-trailer unit shall be forty-eight feet. A  
61 trailer greater than forty-eight feet and less than or equal to fifty-three  
62 feet in length, that has a distance of no more than forty-three feet  
63 between the kingpin and the center of the rearmost axle with wheels in  
64 contact with the road surface, may be operated on (1) unless posted  
65 otherwise, United States and Connecticut routes numbered from 1 to  
66 399, inclusive, 450, 476, 508, 693 and 695 and the national system of  
67 interstate and defense highways, and (2) state and local roads for up to  
68 one mile from the routes and system specified in subdivision (1) of this  
69 subsection for access to terminals, facilities for food, fuel, repair and  
70 rest, and points of loading and unloading. The Commissioner of  
71 Transportation shall permit additional routes upon application of  
72 carriers or shippers provided the proposed additional routes meet the  
73 permit criteria of the Department of Transportation. Such length  
74 limitation shall be exclusive of safety and energy conservation devices,  
75 such as refrigeration units, air compressors or air shields and other  
76 devices, which the Secretary of the federal Department of  
77 Transportation may interpret as necessary for the safe and efficient  
78 operation of such vehicles, provided no such device has by its design  
79 or use the capability to carry cargo.

80 (d) Violation of any provision of this section shall be subject to a fine

81 of five hundred dollars.

82 Sec. 2. Section 14-262b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
83 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

84 Notwithstanding section 14-270, the Commissioner of  
85 Transportation shall establish a program for the purpose of issuing  
86 permits allowing the following vehicles to be operated upon any  
87 highway or bridge: (1) A mobile home with a width greater than  
88 fourteen feet but no greater than sixteen feet; (2) a mobile home  
89 attached to a towing vehicle which has a combined length of one  
90 hundred feet or less if such [towing vehicle] mobile home has a length  
91 over eighty feet; or (3) a mobile home attached to a towing vehicle  
92 which has a combined length of one hundred four feet if such [towing  
93 vehicle] mobile home has a length of eighty feet or less. Such permit  
94 shall specify conditions under which such mobile home shall be  
95 permitted to operate, including, but not limited to, the period of time  
96 such operation shall be authorized. For the purposes of this section,  
97 "mobile home" shall have the same meaning as in section 21-64a. The  
98 Commissioner of Transportation shall adopt regulations, in accordance  
99 with the provisions of chapter 54, to implement the provisions of this  
100 section.

101 Sec. 3. Subsection (k) of section 14-267a of the general statutes is  
102 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*  
103 *passage*):

104 (k) (1) Any driver of a vehicle who fails or refuses when directed by  
105 such official, upon a weighing of the vehicle, to comply with such  
106 official's directions shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars or  
107 more than two hundred dollars for the first offense and not less than  
108 two hundred dollars or more than five hundred dollars for each  
109 subsequent offense.

110 (2) Any driver of a vehicle who (A) exits a limited access highway  
111 on which a scale or safety inspection site is in operation with intent to

112 circumvent the provisions of subsection (h) of this section, without a  
 113 bona fide business purpose, (B) parks on a limited access highway on  
 114 which a scale or safety inspection site is in operation with intent to  
 115 circumvent the provisions of subsection (h) of this section, without a  
 116 bona fide reason requiring such vehicle to be parked, or [(B)] (C) fails  
 117 to comply with the provisions of subsection (h) of this section shall be  
 118 fined not less than two hundred fifty dollars or more than five  
 119 hundred dollars for the first offense and not less than five hundred  
 120 dollars or more than one thousand dollars for each subsequent offense.

121 Sec. 4. Section 14-270 of the general statutes is amended by adding  
 122 subsection (i) as follows (*Effective from passage*):

123 (NEW) (i) A person operating a vehicle under a forged permit shall  
 124 be subject to a minimum fine of twenty-five thousand dollars, in  
 125 addition to any other penalties which may be assessed, and such  
 126 vehicle shall be impounded until payment of such fine or fines, or until  
 127 order of the superior court. As used in this subsection, "forged permit"  
 128 means a permit for a nonconforming vehicle that is subject to the  
 129 provisions of this section, that has been falsely made, completed or  
 130 altered, and "falsely made", "falsely completed" and "falsely altered"  
 131 have the same meaning as set forth in section 53a-137.

132 Sec. 5. Section 13a-27 of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective*  
 133 *from passage*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2011</i>	14-262
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	14-262b
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	14-267a(k)
Sec. 4	<i>from passage</i>	14-270
Sec. 5	<i>from passage</i>	Repealer section

***Statement of Purpose:***

To amend the requirements for highway use by special equipment and to add load or single unit and semitrailer vehicles, and to increase the penalty for forging a permit that authorizes the operation of an oversize/overweight vehicle. Requested by the Department of Transportation.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*